NPS Form 10-900 Oct. 1990

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED

JUL 0.8 2009

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A) Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property							
Historic name Other name/site number		ge K. Mackie House 1556			,		
2. Location							
Street & number  City or town  State Kansas Co	1941 Mas Lawrence	sachusetts Street  County Douglas	Code 045	not for publication vicinity Zip code 66046	1		
					··········		
3. State/Federal Agency Certification  As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this in nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant pationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  **Patrick Zoliner** Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer** Date  **Kansas State Historical Society**  State or Federal agency and bureau  **In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)  **Signature of commenting official /Title**  **Date***  Date**  Signature of commenting official /Title**  **Date**  **Transport of the National Register criteria.**  Signature of commenting official /Title**  **Date**  **Transport of the National Register criteria.**  Signature of commenting official /Title**  **Transport of the National Register criteria.**  Signature of commenting official /Title**  **Transport of the National Register criteria.**  **Transport of the National Register criteria.**  Signature of commenting official /Title**  **Transport of the National Register criteria.*  Signature of commenting official /Title**  **Transport of the National Register of registering properties in the National Register of registering property by the Nat							
State or Federal agenc	State or Federal agency and bureau						
4. National Park Service	Certification						
I herby certify that the proper	ty is nal Register, ion sheet, or the Nation; ion sheet, ole for the	S	ignature of the Keeper		Date of Action		

George K. Mackie House Name of Property		Douglas County, Kansas County and State			
5. Classification		· .			
Ownership of Property Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)			
□ private     □ public-local     □ public-State     □ public-Federal	<ul><li>☑ building(s)</li><li>☐ district</li><li>☐ site</li><li>☐ structure</li><li>☐ object</li></ul>	Contributing Noncontributing  1 1 buildings sites structures objects  1 1 total			
Name of related multiple property (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of	listing a multiple property listing.)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register			
Historic Resources of Lawrence		0			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter Categories from instructions)	+ 2	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)			
Domestic/Single Dwelling		Domestic/Single Dwelling			
Social/Clubhouse					
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)			
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals:		Foundation: Brick Walls: Structural clay tile/Brick veneer			
Neoclassical Revival					
		Roof: Clay Tile			
		Other:			

George K. Mackie House	Douglas County, Kansas County and State		
Name of Property			
8. Statement of Significance			
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register  A Property is associated with events that have made a	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)  Architecture		
significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history	Commerce		
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.			
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and			
distinguishable entify whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance		
D Property has yielded, or likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	1917-1937		
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates		
Property is:	1917		
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.			
B removed from it original location.	Significant Person		
C a birthplace or grave.	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)		
D a cemetery.			
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Cultural Affiliation		
F a commemorative property.			
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years			
Nametica Otatament of Cimiliana	Architect/Builder		
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	H. Alexander Drake, Architect		
Continuation Streets.)	T.T. Construction, Builder		
9. Major Bibliographical References			
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form of	n one or more continuation sheets.)		
Previous documentation on file (NPS):  preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  proviously listed in the National Register.	Primary location of additional data:  ☑ State Historic Preservation Office ☐ Other State agency ☐ Federal agency		
previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	☐ Federal agency ☐ Local government ☑ University ☐ Other Name of repository:		
recorded by Historic American Engineering	Kansas Historical Society		

Record #

George K. Mackie I	House		Douglas County, Kansas
Name of Property			County and State
10. Geographical D	ata		
Acreage of Property	1.29 acres		
Zone Easting  Verbal Boundary Descr (Describe the boundaries  Boundary Justification	references on a continuation sheet.)    6   2   0   0   4   3   1   3   2   4   0	Zone 4 See co	Easting Northing  Ontinuation sheet
11. Form Prepared B			
Name/title Organization	Serina Hearn, edited by KSHS staff	Date	12/16/2008
Street & number_	1941 Massachusetts Street	_ Telephone	785-842-6618
City or town	Lawrence	State KS	Zip code66046
Additional Documen	tation		
Submit the following items v	with the completed form:		
A sketch map for Photographs	or 15 minute series) indicating the property's lo historic districts and properties having large acre ack and white photographs of the property.	cation. eage or numel	rous resources.
Additional items (Check with SHPO or FPO	for any additional items)		
Property Owner			
Name Se	rina Hearn		
Street & number	1941 Massachusetts Street	Telephone	785-842-6618
•	Lawrence	State	Kansas Zip code 66046

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16) U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

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George K. Mackie House Lawrence, Douglas County, KS Historic Resources of Lawrence, KS MPS

## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The George K. Mackie House (1917) is a Neoclassical Revival-style private residence located at 1941 Massachusetts Street in Lawrence, Kansas. The east-facing residence is situated on a large corner parcel composed of six lots and is bounded by Massachusetts on the east, West 20<sup>th</sup> Street on the south, and Vermont Street on the west. Massachusetts Street is the historic north-south commercial thoroughfare and Mackie House is approximately seven blocks south of downtown. A mix of single and multi-family residences and small commercial buildings characterize the surrounding neighborhood.

#### Exterior

The Mackie House is two-and-a-half stories with a full basement. The structural system is hollow clay tile blocks and the exterior material is blonde, Roman shaped brick with quoin detailing at the corners. The hipped roof is sheathed in red interlocking French tile and is intersected with gable-roof dormers on each elevation. There is a large portico on the east elevation and a flat-roofed ell on the west elevation. There is a large, one-story wood-frame porch on the south elevation that features full-height windows and Doric columns and cornice. A smaller wood frame porch on the west elevation has been enclosed and covered with clapboard siding. Both porches have flat roofs topped with classical balustrades. The foundation of the house is brick and there are two brick chimneys. Non-historic additions include a wood-frame hyphen and small wood frame covered porch with a pyramidal roof on the rear of the house.

The east (principal) elevation features typical Neoclassical Revival-style symmetry with five bays. A large-scale full height portico supported by four fluted columns topped by a full Corinthian entablature is the focal point. The ceiling of the portico is coffered and lined with a classical cornice. The portico is flanked at floor level by an open porch with classical balustrade railing. The cornice, featuring dentil molding and modillion brackets, follows the roofline to the rear of the house. The front door has an arched classical surround with paired Ionic pilasters and a leaded glass fanlight. The first floor windows feature full arched dressed stone surrounds with a lattice pattern, quoin detailing, keystones, and sills. Windows on the second floor feature stone jack arches with keystones and stone sills. The windows are double-hung sashes with a one-over-one configuration on the first floor and six-over-one on the second floor. There are windows above the front door in a tripartite arrangement. There are three gable-roofed dormers on this elevation featuring rounded arch windows with pointed arch muntins.

The south elevation features a wood-frame sun porch on the first floor. The porch has a flat roof with classical balustrade. There are fluted Doric columns that support the corners and an entablature with dentil molding. The modern casement windows with transoms span from floor to ceiling. There are three windows and a door that provides access to the porch roof on the second floor. Two gable-roof dormers with pointed arch muntin patterns pierce the roof and are connected by a small shed roof with two small windows. There is a simple brick chimney east of the dormers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The 1927 Sanborn map of Lawrence indicates that this was originally an open porch and the windows appear to be modern. Sanborn maps are located at the Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas in the Kansas Collection.

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The north elevation has three symmetrical bays. The windows are one-over-one configuration on the first floor and six-over-one on the second floor. They feature the same dressed stone jack arches and sills found on the other elevations. Historically there was a large entrance to the basement on this elevation that is indicated by a section of in filled brick. The 1927 Sanborn map confirms that this was the entrance for a basement garage. According to the current owner, the underground garage featured a turntable to reposition the car to go back out the same entrance. The entrance has been filled in with concrete flush to ground level and the turntable is no longer extant.

The west (rear) elevation of the house has a two-story ell that contains the kitchen on the first floor and an office on the second floor. It is also faced with brick on the exterior but lacks quoin detailing, has a simpler cornice and the only adornment on the windows are stone sills. A classical balustrade that once topped the flat roof is missing. The windows are double-hung with a six-over-one light configuration. There is a small chimney that rises from the center of the ell roof. Connected to the ell on the north side is a small room that was once used as the icebox.

There is a modern, two-story, **three-car garage** on the property that is **non-contributing**. There is also a modern pond with a small bridge and a small, gable-roof temporary shed.

#### Interior

The interior of the Mackie House exhibits characteristics of the Neo-Classical Revival, Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles. There are seven bedrooms and five bathrooms on three floors as well as four fireplaces.

The floor plan is arranged around a grand central staircase. The front entry features a small vestibule with leaded glass French doors that open to the main hall. There is a closet on either side of the vestibule doors. A large ceremonial staircase, crafted of oak with barley twist turned balusters is centrally situated. A Doric order column and pilaster on either side of the staircase support a full-width cased header. The floors, doors, door surrounds, window surrounds, and crown molding throughout the main floor public spaces are primarily quarter-sawn oak with a few exceptions. The main floor public spaces consist of four large rooms including two parlors, a dining room, and an enclosed sun porch. Large leaded glass pocket doors separate the two parlors from the main hall. An interesting feature that is more consistent with Colonial Revival detailing is the prolific use of a simple, fairly narrow, elliptical profile window and door surround throughout the entire interior, in both public and private spaces. The windows throughout the house are double-hung wood sash with intact rope and pulley systems. There are also some casements in the more formal spaces.

The southern parlor is accessed through leaded glass pocket doors from the main hall. It has a Neoclassical Revival-style fireplace mantel with Corinthian columns and a marble surround. There is one set of French doors that provides access to the enclosed porch and pocket doors provide access to the dining room. Three large double-hung windows illuminate the space.

The northern parlor is also accessed through leaded glass pocket doors. It is slightly smaller than the southern parlor and the focal point is a mantel which features large-scale scroll brackets, a mantel shelf

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George K. Mackie House Lawrence, Douglas County, KS Historic Resources of Lawrence, KS MPS

with dentil molding and flanking built-in bookshelves with glass doors. The fireplace surround is marble. Unlike the other formal public spaces, all of the wood details in this room are maple or poplar, rather than oak.

The dining room features more closely resemble Craftsman details. All casement detailing is quarter-sawn oak. There are two sets of leaded glass French doors that lead to the enclosed porch, cased ceiling beams, flat panel wainscoting with a plate rail, crown molding, and door surrounds. Paneled pocket doors separate the dining room from the front parlor. A single doorway that opens to the main hall features an oak door with three full-height vertical panels. There are three pairs of casement windows in the dining room that feature leaded glass.

A small office and bathroom are also located on the main floor along with a kitchen that extends into the rear ell. There is a butler's pantry located off the kitchen with original blue tile flooring and some built-in case pieces. The kitchen has been significantly altered over time and the original configuration could not be determined.

The central staircase extends to a landing just below the second floor level. From this landing there is access to the western portion of the house through French doors to the second floor of the rear ell. This room features large windows on all four walls. The eastern interior wall, which is shared with the main staircase landing, features leaded glass casement windows.

From the first landing of the main staircase, the stairs split to either side and proceed up to the second floor to a U-shaped landing that overlooks the first floor. At the top of the stairs in the main hall is a cased elliptical arch, supported by simple pilasters, that spans the stairs. At the eastern end of the second floor main hall is a small room that overlooks the front porch. This room features built-in cabinets and drawers and was likely a linen closet that served the upstairs bedrooms. There are three bedrooms, a large modern master suite, and a smaller bath that is in nearly original condition. The smaller bath features white hexagonal tiles on the floor and a white subway tile wainscot on the walls with blue Greek key border tiles. The large white porcelain sink and bathtub in this room are also original. The current owner indicated that the current master suite replaced an original second floor ballroom.

On the north side of the main second floor hall there is a door that leads to a staircase to the third floor. On this floor there are three large finished bedrooms, two of which are separated by paneled pocket doors. The door and window surrounds on this floor are the same profile as those on the lower levels; however, the doors are two square panels instead of three long vertical panels. The wood trim in these upper rooms is maple or poplar.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The George K. Mackie House (1917) is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Historic Resources of Lawrence Multiple Property Listing, specifically under Criterion A for its reflection of the commercial successes of entrepreneur George Mackie, and under Criterion C for Architecture as a good example of 20<sup>th</sup> century Neoclassical Revival-style residence. The period of significance begins in 1917 - the year the house was constructed – and ends in 1937 when the Mackie family sold the house.

Mackie hired architect H. Alexander Drake to design the house and contracted with T. T. Construction to build it. It was built during a period marked by the American architectural movements, Prairie and Craftsman, as well as Tudor, Colonial and Neoclassical Revival. The Mackie House is a textbook example of the Neoclassical Revival property type as outlined in Section F of the multiple property document, "Historic Resources of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas." It includes such character-defining features as a monumental portico, side wing porch, roofline and front porch balustrades, and heavy window and door surrounds. Through the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Neoclassical Revival was a dominant building style for residential architecture. The 1893 Chicago World's Columbian Exposition sparked a revival in classical models that was the impetus for the Neoclassical Revival style of building.<sup>2</sup> The Mackie House was constructed during the first phase of the style's popularity (1900-1920) that emphasized hipped roofs and elaborate columns with correct proportions. It is one of the few examples of high-style, monumental, Neoclassical Revival-style buildings in Lawrence.

#### Elaboration

A party of emigrants from Massachusetts first settled the city of Lawrence in 1854. The original urban plan created in 1855 was oriented along a linear main street perpendicular to the Kansas River called Massachusetts Street. The layout was a regular street grid pattern. The initial settlement was small and impermanent and transportation was a problem from the start. When the site for Lawrence was chosen it was assumed that steamboats would be able to navigate the Kansas River, but they were not successful.

Being from Massachusetts, the first settlers of Lawrence were abolitionists and were there to counter the southern influences in Kansas. However, the population of Lawrence was much more diverse including emigrants from Germany, Scandinavia, Ireland, as well as Native Americans and African Americans. A defining point in the history of Lawrence was William Quantrill's raid in 1863 when nearly one half of the residences and over 75 commercial buildings in the business district were burned. Much of the town was reconstructed after this time. By 1900 the town was stabilized and had invested in infrastructure such as streets with curbs and gutters and waterworks.

The Mackie House is located in the South Lawrence Addition, which was platted in 1866. And although the southern part of Lawrence was platted in the late 1860s, the result of a post-Civil War land boom, the development of new residential districts south of 15<sup>th</sup> Street did not become a trend until the early

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> McAlester, Virginia and Lee, A Field Guide to American Houses, Alfred A. Knopf: New York, 1994, 344.

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twentieth century. In 1909, a trolley system was constructed that ran from the Santa Fe depot near the Kansas River to the southern end of Massachusetts Street. Tracks and wires ran the length of the street and the system was powered with electricity. The trolleys were very successful, however, by the mid 1930s, the automobile had taken over and the trolleys were replaced with buses.<sup>4</sup>

The man who commissioned the house in 1917, George K. Mackie, was the founder of the family-owned Mackie-Clemens Fuel Company. Mackie had come to America from Ayrshire, Scotland around 1869, when he was just one year old. His parents, David and Elizabeth, settled first in Wisconsin and Illinois and moved to Kansas in 1883. At that time, David Mackie was one of the principal founders and builders of the town of Scammon in Cherokee County. David worked for the Keith & Perry Coal Company and eventually became superintendent. He also organized and was president of the Scammon State Bank among other enterprises. The GK Mackie family's presence in Lawrence is evident in the Lawrence City Directories beginning in 1915. At that time, the family's residence was at 917 Tennessee. The 1917 directory lists their residence to be at 1941 Massachusetts, the present day George K. Mackie House. 6

George K. Mackie grew up around the coal mining industry. He was 15 when the family settled in Scammon and worked for Keith & Perry Coal Company with his father. He organized his own coal company in October 6, 1906 called the George K. Mackie Fuel Company. It was one of the most technologically advanced coal companies of the time, with mines in Foxtown and north of Mulberry. Their strip mining operations were very successful and by the 1940s there were approximately 180 miners working in the Mackie mines. As of 1940, the mines generated 4,500 tons of coal per day and the company had mined enough coal to provide coal reserves for 15-20 years. The Mackie-Clemens Coal Company is still in business in Crawford County.

George eventually took over his father's position as president of the Scammon State Bank and was a member of several fraternal organizations including the Scottish Rite Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was also president of the Mackie Fuel Company, Mackie-McDonald Lumber

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Information in the preceding paragraphs was adapted from *Historic Resources of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas* Multiple Property Documentation Form by Deon Wolfenbarger and Dale Nimz, 1997. On file at the Kansas Historical Society and online at: http://www.kshs.org/resource/national\_register/Historic\_Resources\_Lawrence.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Lawrence Community Connections. "A Narrative on Public Transportation in

Lawrence, Kansas" located online at http://history.lawrence.com/project/community/transportation/transportation.html.

Transcribed from volume III, part 1 of Kansas: a cyclopedia of state history, embracing events, institutions, industries, counties, cities, towns, prominent persons, etc. ... / with a supplementary volume devoted to selected personal history and reminiscence. Standard Pub. Co. Chicago: 1912. 3 v. in 4.: front., ill., ports.; 28 cm. Vols. I-II edited by Frank W. Blackmar. Transcribed December 2002 by Carolyn Ward. This volume is identified at the Kansas State Historical Society as microfilm LM195. Also online at: http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/archives/1912/m3/mackie\_david.html

Lawrence City Directories: 1915 p. 212, 1917 p. 193, and 1919 p. 152-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> n.a. "Mackie-Clemens Firm Began Operations in District 40 Years Ago". Pittsburg Headlight 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Coal Edition, September 23, 1946, 23.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

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Company, Mineral Cities Lumber Company, Scammon Fuel Company and Mackie Mercantile. He married Flora E. Bush following the untimely death of his first wife and they had five children: Elizabeth, Martha, David, George and Thomas. It is not known why George Mackie lived in Lawrence when all of his business interests were in Cherokee county. However, according to city directories at least one of the Mackie children was enrolled at the University of Kansas. It is likely that Mackie located his family in Lawrence because the education system was superior and the city offered more amenities for a family of means. George Mackie died at his home on June 15, 1928 of heart disease at the age of 61.

Flora Mackie continued to live at 1941 Massachusetts until 1937 when she sold the house to the Lawrence Women's Club. <sup>14</sup> Organized in 1883, the Lawrence Women's Club served an important purpose in the life of the community by giving its female members an outlet for their intellectual and social interests. <sup>15</sup> The Club had been looking for a building of their own to use as a clubhouse. For the first fifty years of their existence the club met in the basement of the Eldridge Hotel. The purchase of the clubhouse marked the realization of a dream to have a center of activities for women and girls. <sup>16</sup> Not only did the Club help their members, but "[t]he club engage[d] in educational, civic and charitable enterprises that enrich[ed] the life of the community." The house was purchased in order to make it easier for the club to fulfill these tasks.

Coming as many of them did from cultured homes in the east, where books, magazines, and social gatherings were a matter of course, the young women who accompanied their husbands to the new territory of Kansas attempted to transplant this atmosphere to their new home and throughout the years this imprint has been felt on the social life of the town.<sup>18</sup>

Originally the house was partitioned for different Club uses. The first floor maintained a tearoom and the second floor rooms were used for meetings and card playing. <sup>19</sup> In 1945, club members agreed to rent the majority of the house to the University of Kansas for use as women's housing. The end of World War II resulted in an unprecedented increase in male students who were taking advantage of the GI bill. Almost overnight the campus population doubled. <sup>20</sup> The terms of the lease allowed the Club members to use one

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Leonard, John W., Who's Who in Finance and Banking: A Biographical Dictionary of Contemporaries, Joseph & Sefton: New York, 1922, 432.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Lawrence, Kansas City Directory, 1917, p. 152-153.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The Lawrence Daily Journal World, June 16, 1928. p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Flora Mackie died at her home at 1125 W. Campus Road, Lawrence on October 8, 1952.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Sources differ on when the club was founded. Two sources indicate that it was 1883 while another indicates that it was around 1925.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Lawrence History, SK6, 5 p.21. February 6, 1937.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> n.a. "Women's Paradise---Clubs Galore," n.d.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Licklider, Debbie, "Peace Reigns (finally) at Women's Club", *Lawrence Journal-World*, February 1, 1975. A popular eatery called "Evans Hearth" was located in the house and open to the public from 1937 to 1942.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Various authors, *The University of Kansas Campus Heritage Plan*, March, 2008, located online at http://www.dcm.ku.edu/planning/heritage.shtml, 4-92.

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or two rooms to hold their meetings and the University used the rest of the house. The house was used for student housing until 1949.<sup>21</sup>

The history of the Lawrence Women's Club is marked by several legal battles that divided the membership. In the late 1940s, some of the membership grew tired of sharing the house with students and seven members of the Club filed an injunction to set aside the lease with the university on the grounds that their board did not have the authority to make the arrangement. A judge denied their petition in 1948, but the university did not wish to rent the house after the 1948-1949 academic year and the matter was resolved. Shortly after the students vacated the house the Club went to court again to determine whether or not the organization should pay property taxes on the house. An article from the 1960s indicated that the property was not on the tax rolls so they likely won that battle.

The biggest disagreement, however, was over the membership's vote to sell of the one of the property's six lots on Vermont Street to Lawrence resident Frank Rice. Some of the members claimed that the sale was made in violation of the Club's by-laws and they went to court to have the sale stopped. The court denied the injunction and the sale stood. The same members then took Frank Rice to court to declare the property sale void. The court's previous decision to allow the sale was upheld. Through appeals, the case eventually made its way to the Kansas Supreme Court. But in the end, Frank Rice built his house at another location and the property remains undeveloped.<sup>25</sup>

Beginning in 1958, members of the Club began trying to abolish the Lawrence Women's Club and liquidate its assets. The case went to court and was dismissed by the judge because according to state law, they could not dissolve without a two-thirds vote. Over the next 15 years there were more lawsuits filed for the same purpose, but the Club could not seem to abolish itself or liquidate its assets. At one point in the 1960s there was talk of donating the house to the Douglas County Historical Society for use as a museum, but it never materialized.

The Club finally dissolved in 1975 and the house was sold. The proceeds from the sale were donated to Lawrence Memorial Hospital and, after almost 40 years, the Mackie House was once again a single-family residence.<sup>27</sup> The house is currently used as a single-family residence.

Summary

The Mackie House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under the Historic Resources of Lawrence Multiple Property Listing, specifically under Criterion A for its reflection of the commercial

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Anne Marvin, Lawrence, Kansas, . "Ladies Of The Clubhouse", <u>This Week In KU History</u> (www.kuhistory.com), ed. Henry J. Fortunato. September 5, 2006. University of Kansas Memorial Corporation. Retrieved March 24, 2009 from <a href="http://www.kuhistory.com/proto/story.asp?id=383">http://www.kuhistory.com/proto/story.asp?id=383</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Marvin.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Licklider.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> n.a. "History Group to Study Plan About Museum," Lawrence Journal World, ca. 1964.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Thid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> n.a. "Women's Club Asks for Dissolution," Lawrence Journal World, December 26, 1957.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Licklider.

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successes of entrepreneur George Mackie, and under Criterion C for Architecture as a good example of 20<sup>th</sup> century Neoclassical Revival-style residence.

## H. Alexander Drake, Architect

H. Alexander Drake began his career in architecture at the turn of the century with the Kansas City firm of Howe, Holt, and Cutler. This firm had become the successor to Van Brunt and Howe, which had settled in Kansas City after having had several national commissions. By at least 1910 and until 1945, Drake had been an architect of his own employ in the Kansas City area. The 1908 city directory for Kansas City, Missouri lists Drake as being employed as superintendent for the architect firm Howe & Holt of 315 E 10<sup>th</sup> St. At that time he resided at 3018 Matthews. The 1910 city directory indicates Harry A. Drake was the architect of his own business at 315 Reliance Building while he resided at 2824 E 21<sup>st</sup>. <sup>28</sup> He was also responsible for designing the 1524 Grand Avenue Building (c.1928). Other buildings by Drake include the now extinct, Newman Theater (c. 1928) also in Kansas City, Missouri.

http://www.dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/04000389.pdf

Kansas City, Missouri City Directory. 1908, p. 377, 1910, p. 463, 1914, p. 663; 1915, p. 654; 1917, p. 1009.
 Missouri National Register Nomination. 1524 Grand Avenue (Boulevard, sic.) Building (c. 1928) Accessed at:

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George K. Mackie House Lawrence, Douglas County, KS Historic Resources of Lawrence, KS MPS

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

South Lawrence Addition Block 2 Lots 6 Thru 11, 225' X 250'

## **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

This nomination includes the parcels historically associated with the George K. Mackie House.

## PHOTOGRAPIC INFORMATION

Property Name:

George K. Mackie House

Location:

Douglas County, Kansas

Photographer:

Sarah Martin

Date:

December 10, 2008

## Digital images on file at KSHS

Photo 1: View of the front elevation from the northeast

Photo 2: View of the rear elevation from the west

Photo 3: View of the south elevation from the south

Photo 4: View of the north elevation from the northwest

Photo 5: Front door detail facing west

Photo 6: Portico detail facing northwest

Photo 7: Leaded glass door detail facing northeast

Photo 8: Central staircase facing west

Photo 9: View of main hall facing east

Photo 10: View of south parlor facing south

Photo 11: Main hall staircase detail facing northwest

Photo 12: View of second floor landing facing west

